



Coffee with Council – Public Outreach Meetings

May 24, 2014

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Peet's Tea & Coffee

Topics of Discussion

City

- Council meetings very intimidating
- City website confusing
- Are there new ward maps?
 - Told ward maps can be found on City website under council link; also MORPC has info and City-Data.com.

Westside

- Stygler/Agler intersection is real problem
- Westside development/redevelopment needed; current commercial (Royal Plaza Shopping Center) needs renovating
- Development of property near pool/Veterans Park
 - Administration compiled list of capital improvements; City has limited revenue and day-to-day expenses, infrastructure and street renovations take priority; City is comparing cost vs. benefit on all capital improvements/projects; looking at ways to encourage new development and growth and improve the area; offer incentives to jump start; also looking for grants and alternate ways of funding.
 - Administration proposes projects and council determines what is funded after reviewing what benefits the community and input from residents. City only receives 3% of property taxes; income tax is where City gets most of its revenue.

Northeast School Garden

- Controversial plan. Question regarding current status.
 - Certificate of appropriateness approved on 9/11/2013; .

HB5

- Discussion on HB5 that would revise the laws governing income taxes imposed by cities and allows the State to take control of city income tax filing. The bill as presented would reduce local revenues and increase administrative costs.

Communications

- Participants at all Coffee with Council are on a growing contact list to receive information discussed at each meeting; meetings are to assist with resolving specific concerns; what should be done; continue getting input and questions from residents and evaluating process.
- Bring a neighbor to next meeting; spread word about meetings; all ideas welcome; email or call; any communication/conversation is great.